

RESOLUTION 2022-11-21-04

Authorizing an Application for the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant Program


WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration has established the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant Program to assist local communities to improve the safety, efficiency and reliability of intercity passenger and freight rail; and

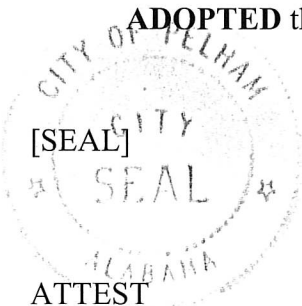
WHEREAS, the Pelham City Council has determined it serves a public purpose and is beneficial for the City of Pelham to apply for funding from the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant Program through the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Pelham that Gary W. Waters, in his official capacity as Mayor of the City of Pelham, is authorized to make application to the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration's Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Grant Program with an 80% federal and 20% local project cost match to improve the safety, efficiency and reliability of intercity passenger and freight rail within the City of Pelham, Alabama.

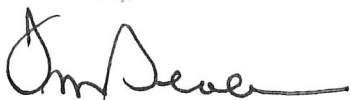
THEREUPON David Coram, a councilmember, moved and Mildred Lanier, a councilmember, seconded the motion that Resolution 2022-11-21-04 be given vote, and said resolution passed by a majority vote of all members of the Council present and the Council President declared the same passed and adopted.

ADOPTED this 21st day of November 2022.


Maurice Mercer, President of the Council



ATTEST



Tom Seale, MMC, City Clerk/Treasurer

I, the undersigned City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Pelham, Alabama, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of a resolution lawfully passed and adopted by the City Council of the City named herein, at a regular meeting of such Council held on the 21st day of November 2022 and that such resolution is on file in the office of the City Clerk/Treasurer and that no action has been taken to rescind or modify said Resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City on this 21st day of November 2022.


Tom Seale, MMC, City Clerk/Treasurer





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MEMORANDUM

TO: Gretchen DiFante, City Manager
FROM: Brooke Jenkins, Assistant to the City Manager
CC: Tom Seale, City Clerk ; Andre` Bittas, DSPW Director
DATE: 11/15/2022
SUBJECT: CRISI Grant Application Authorization

Highway 52 Railroad Crossing Safety Improvements

Munis Acct No. 1005030-550599

Attached is an application to the US Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration as part of the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Program (CRISI). The goal of this grant will be to improve safety at railroad crossings within the City.

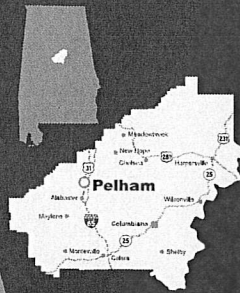
This is an 80/20 grant wherein, if funding is provided, the US Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration will be responsible for 80% of the project costs and the City will be responsible for 20% of the project costs.

I am requesting that this recommendation to apply be placed on the Council agenda for consideration.

Railroad Crossing Elimination on Shelby County Road 52

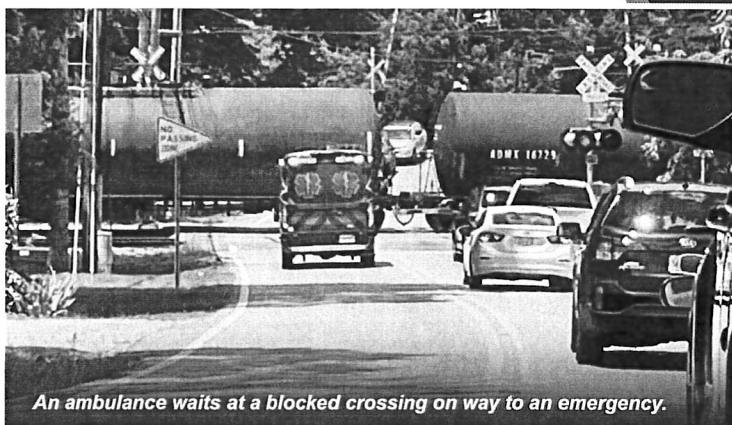
Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements

Submitted: December 1, 2022



Shelby County, Alabama

The City of Pelham, Alabama, is seeking federal funding to permanently close two CSX at-grade railroad crossings on CR 52 at Lee Street. The Railroad Crossing Elimination Project on Shelby County Road 52 proposes the realignment of CR 52 West with the existing CR 52 East alignment and the construction of a bridge over the two crossings. As part of the proposed realignment, the intersection of CR 52 and US Highway 31 will be reconfigured and additional improvements will be implemented along Highway 31. The project will also widen and reconstruct CR 52 East of US Highway 31 to increase capacity and update the roadway to current design standards.



An ambulance waits at a blocked crossing on way to an emergency.



Train crossing 63953V causes traffic queue obstruction on adjacent 352255T crossing.

Project Partners



CSX Railroad



City of Pelham



City of Helena



Shelby County



ALDOT



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Current Challenges

County Road 52 is a vital east-to-west collector roadway across the southern Birmingham metropolitan area and is currently carrying a higher volume of traffic than any other east-to-west connector in the area except Interstate 459. The two existing at-grade railroad crossings frequently restrict access across CR 52 and obstruct emergency vehicles responding to calls. The two crossings are often blocked by stalled trains for extended periods of time. Even on days without a stalled train, 30+ trains per day traverse the crossings, blocking the travel way and extending travel times for emergency responders and approximately 24,000 vehicles that travel on CR 52 each day. Flooding in the area exacerbates the travel issues. The intersections in the area are congested and experience a poor level of service.



Emergency medical responders unable to travel through flood waters on County Road 52.



County Road 52 closed for an extended period due to track maintenance.

Project Benefits

- ✓ Two at-grade crossings closed
- ✓ Less travel disruptions for emergency medical services
- ✓ Dependable route for police and fire
- ✓ Permanently navigable east-west corridor
- ✓ Fewer vehicle crashes
- ✓ Increased safety
- ✓ More robust and resilient supply chain
- ✓ Travel time savings
- ✓ Lower emissions
- ✓ Less flooding in roadway
- ✓ Increased capacity of travel way
- ✓ Road user operating cost saving
- ✓ Higher level of service at intersections



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